



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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DEQ-CID arrests man for illegal dumping of solid waste

BATON ROUGE – A Bienville Parish man was arrested Wednesday for felony illegal dumping of solid waste which could endanger human health or the environment. This arrest was based on an outstanding arrest warrant after a criminal investigation on his activities conducted by the Department of Environmental Quality Criminal Investigation Division.

Jackie Franklin Davis, 70, was observed by local law enforcement from the Bienville Parish Sheriff's Office dumping waste from his vacuum truck on a landowner's property in Ringgold. Bienville Parish deputy sheriffs identified Davis, documented the incident, and referred the matter to DEQ-CID.

Investigation by DEQ-CID and the Bienville Parish Sheriff's Office determined that Davis is not a certified waste transporter, and the evidence indicated that Davis was knowingly dumping waste on other people's property in order to avoid disposal fees. The disposal of septic tank waste is regulated by DEQ and is required to be disposed of at a permitted site.

Exposure to untreated sewage can present a number of public health concerns, which include, but are not limited to ground water contamination, bacterial and viral infection, and exposure to various communicable diseases and pathogens which can harm both humans and wildlife.

"Unfortunately, some businessmen insist on undercutting their competitors to the detriment of the quality of life for others. This will not be tolerated under this administration. The eradication of illegal commercial dumping of waste is a high priority of DEQ-CID and we will continue to step up efforts in the cities or in the woods to help keep Louisiana beautiful," stated Beau James Brock, Special Assistant to the Secretary.

This was a joint investigation between DEQ-CID, Bienville Parish Sheriff's Office, and the Bienville Parish District Attorney's Office.

The illegal dumping of this type of solid waste is a felony and, upon conviction, could lead to a fine of not more than one hundred thousand dollars per violation, which may be assessed for each day the violation continues, and costs of prosecution, or imprisoned at hard labor for not more than ten years, or both.

An arrest does not constitute guilt in a criminal case. All evidence compiled during the investigation is presented to the area prosecutors who determine if formal charges are warranted.

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